

ESTABLISHED IN 1861

# THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST BEE PAPER IN AMERICA

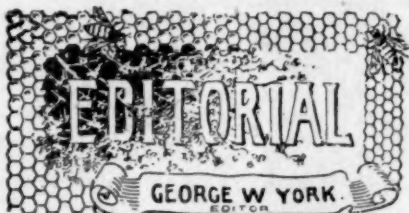
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DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY—  
—TO BEE-CULTURE.

Sample Copy Free.

VOL. XXXIV. CHICAGO, ILL., DEC. 27, 1894.

NO. 26.



**"A Happy New Year"** to you all—  
With cheerfulness and health.  
"A Happy New Year" may it be,  
Midst poverty or wealth.

**No Convention Copy** was received in time for this number of the Bee Journal, consequently none of the report of the North American will be found in it this week. We had hoped to complete the report before the Toronto meeting, in 1895, but, like some other things in Washington, D. C., 'tis inexcusably slow-moving.

**The Index to Volume XXXIV** will be found in this number. It is what might be called "a recapitulation" of the 26 issues of the American Bee Journal since July 1, 1894. We hope the majority of our readers have preserved the copies from week to week, so that now, with the aid of the index, they will be able to refer with ease to any particular and important topic they may desire to re-read. It may be that some matters during the hurry of summer-time were overlooked. The index will remind you of any such. Look it over—then bind it in with the preceding 25 numbers, and you will have a valuable volume of the latest bee-literature.

**Another Volume** of the American Bee Journal is completed with this number. Its 35th year will commence next week. We hope that 1895 will be the best year the old American Bee Journal ever had. We believe that in its special bee-information and general reading on the subject of bee-culture, the next volume will far exceed that of any previous volume. It shall be our constant aim and endeavor to improve its contents from week to week. We desire ever and always to give more than "value received"—to give two dollars' worth of bee-reading for one dollar. We believe in "scripture measure"—pressed down, heaping up, and running over. Our efforts will surely be rewarded, for bee-keepers, as a rule, are a generous, fair, and square class of people. And they "know a good thing when they see it." We'll try to see that they "see a good thing" in the old American Bee Journal every week.

#### Experiment Apiary Reports.—

On page 814 of this number of the American Bee Journal, will be found some "boiled down" reports of experiments made by Hon. R. L. Taylor, of the Michigan Experiment Apiary. The "boiling down" process was done, as will be seen, by Rev. W. F. Clarke, who, for the time being, acted as "cook." It required a deal of work to thus condense the several long reports, and will no doubt be appreciated by all.

#### Another Bee-Paralysis Cure.—

In the November Bee-Keepers' Review, W. A. Webster, of Bakersfield, Calif., gives another remedy for bee-paralysis. He says it was given to him by one of his corres-

pondents, and that it was discovered by scientists in Denmark. By its use Mr. W. has never failed to cure when the work was thoroughly done. Here is the method used:

Take as follows: One teaspoonful salicylic acid and one teaspoonful powdered borax, mix thoroughly and dissolve in a small quantity of water; add this to sufficient sweetened water to make one quart of liquid, and spray over the bees and combs. Repeat once daily until the bees quit dying, which is generally about the third or fourth day at the outside. Occasionally it may be necessary to repeat some weeks later, but generally one series of treatment is sufficient.

During two successive seasons I have held things in check, while the disease has become epidemic with my neighbors. I believe it contagious in a certain degree, but if watched and taken by the forelock, none need fear its ravages.

**Mr. Geo. W. Brodbeck**, of Los Angeles, Calif., in a letter dated Dec. 12, says: "We have just had the first rain of any consequence, and every one wears a smile." That's a good thing for California bee-keepers, as so much there depends upon abundant rains—especially as to getting a honey crop the following season. We hope they may be well supplied with rains now, and later on have plenty of honey again.

**A Little Too High**—even for the famous Canadian honey, it seems the reporter got it. Here's the correction from Mr. Holtermann himself:

FRIEND YORK:—On page 756 of your excellent report of the North American Bee-Keepers' convention, I see I am reported as saying: "We in Canada have wholesale 12½ cents and retail 15 cents for extracted, and these are the prices we get." I did not intend to say that, if I did. I may have said as high as 12½ cents. That is certainly much above the average price for extracted honey.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

**The Editorial "I" and "We"** seem to be giving some people lots of worry these days. Now, here comes our friend Emm Dee, who puts the case in this style:

BIG "I" AND LITTLE "WE."

Come to think of it, I too must take exception to the American Bee Journal editor, regarding his conclusion concerning the editorial "we" and the individual "I"—and the more concur with Bro. Ernest Root's preference. Why? Well, I'll tell you. The "I" gives all statements a more decided, independent and responsible force;

it admits of no equivocation; it courts no excuse; it holds itself personally amenable for the utterance; it practically affirms that he is the writer—"If you have any objections to urge, I am ready to afford you satisfaction!"

Now, it is not so with the usual "we." Not only does it fail to be commendably modest, but it lacks individuality and manly grit! It nebulously suggests that others are implicated in the assertions made; it is only another way of expressing the irresponsible "they say," which phrase may or may not include half the inhabitants of a given place—a weak, cowardly intimation, too frequently protected. Of all things to me most admirable is the exhibition of manly courage of one's convictions, of placing one's self firmly, honestly and independently before the public, ready to maintain the principles he believes to be right; courting criticism from soever source, and I know of no more unflinching vowel for the purpose than a respectful "I."

EMM DEE.

With all due respect to those who seem to disagree with the editor of the American Bee Journal on this subject, it is a matter scarcely worth discussing. There are other interests more pressing, and of more consequence to bee-keepers, than whether "I" or "we" should or should not be used by an individual editor. While a discussion of the subject might be entertaining, it would hardly prove to be very profitable.

**Dr. A. B. Mason and Wife**, of Toledo, O., have both been sick for some time, we regret to learn. From a letter dated Dec. 14, we clip these closing words:

Mrs. Mason has been an invalid since last June, but is *very* slowly getting to be her "old self" again. I guess we will both attend the Michigan Bee-Keepers' convention at Detroit, for a change. It was a year ago yesterday that I had the second attack of "grip," and I don't seem to get over its effects; no energy, and "don't care for nothin'."

As ever, your friend,

A. B. MASON.

P. S.—Dec. 8, the thermometer showed 60 degrees, and I set some of our bees out of the cellar to see them fly; and a colony I looked over had four combs with hatching brood, eggs and larvæ, and was in good condition. Will it spring dwindle? We'll see.

A. B. M.

The Michigan State convention referred to by Dr. M., meets in Detroit on Jan. 2 and 3. Everybody who can do so, should go, and help make it the best meeting our Michigan friends ever held. But they always have good meetings. They are noted for that.

See A B C offer on page 803.

**Golden-Rod Honey.**—Mr. W. H. Morse, of Florence, Nebr., has kindly sent us a bottle of golden-rod honey—the first, we believe, we ever saw. He says this about it:

FRIEND YORK:—I have mailed to you today a small quantity of honey which I thought would be of interest to you, as I am sure it is exclusively golden-rod, it being taken from a colony which had no surplus until the above-named flower opened, and I watched closely until I took the honey off. I could with difficulty extract it. In the same room where it was kept, I have a small bottle four years old, which never showed signs of candying, and the sample I send was showing signs of candying in three days after extracting, but the weather was so dry that the nectar had very little water in it.

I wish you every success with the "Old Reliable," which I regard as a pet, and would not like to miss its weekly visits.

Yours truly, W. H. MORSE.  
Florence, Neb., Dec. 12.

The sample is candied solid, and is nearly as white as candied basswood honey. The flavor is quite mild, resembling slightly that of heart's-ease, we think. We shall be glad to give our bee-keeping friends a taste of it when they call at our office.

**Bee-Keepers' Educational Society.**—In the Providence, R. I., Evening Bulletin was printed the following paragraph on Dec. 11:

Last evening, in response to invitations, some 16 bee-keepers were at the office of William A. Greene, 21 Custom House street, where steps were taken to form an association for mutual improvement in the art of bee-culture. It was voted to give the name of "The Bee-Keepers' Educational Society" to the association. Thomas M. Pierce, of Wickford, was elected President, and Walter G. Gartside, of Providence, Secretary and Treasurer. A committee of four, W. A. Greene, Dr. Mackey, S. Lewis and J. Parker, was appointed to draw up a constitution and by-laws. The meeting adjourned to Friday evening, Dec. 21, when it is hoped that many more will be present to listen to interesting essays on the subject of bees.

Mr. W. G. Gartside sent the foregoing with the following letter:

MR. EDITOR:—From the attached clipping you will perceive that interest in bee-keeping is progressing even in the little State of Rhode Island.

I once heard a story of a conversation between a gentleman and Dr. Miller, at the Columbian Exposition. The Doctor asked the other, who appeared interested in the bee-exhibit, if he kept bees. The answer was that he kept a few colonies, and came

from a State where there were six bee-keepers, and all the territory was taken up. The Doctor at once said, "Rhode Island?"

I am pleased to be able to inform that gentleman and the Doctor, that there are now more than six—in fact, nearly fifty who keep from one to four colonies, and, *some territory still open for others.*

Now, while some Rhode Island bee-keepers did not obtain more honey than Dr. Miller did this year, there were several that did obtain from 300 to 800 pounds of A No. 1 honey, part comb and part extracted; and from the general tone of conversation and correspondence, I think that there is interest enough to keep this new society in a flourishing condition, with increasing membership at its each monthly meeting.

Yours truly,

W. G. GARTSIDE.

We hope to hear often from the Bee-Keepers' Educational Society, through its Secretary, Mr. Gartside. Possibly we may be permitted to record in these columns some of their monthly "sayings" and "doings." Surely, all our readers will be interested in anything that comes from a society having such a happy and wise name.

**Pomona College**, at Claremont, Calif., is where Prof. Cook is teaching. We received a catalogue of that school a short time ago, and in it we find this, under "Entomology"—Prof. Cook's department:

The science and practice of bee-keeping also receive attention, if any of the students desire instruction in this study. The races of bees are discussed, and the students, by actual practice, are made familiar with the various manipulations of the apiary.

Then on another page occur these words under "General Regulations" of the college:

Such obvious requirements as abstinence from intoxicating drinks and vulgar and profane language are understood. To secure the best results, it has been deemed wise to forbid card-playing and the use of tobacco.

Guess Prof. Cook must be in pretty good school—a safe place for parents to educate their boys and girls. We are glad to speak of it in these columns.

**Regular Advertising** is a subject which Editor Root touches on in "Gleanings" for Nov. 15. Here are his truthful words:

There has been a good deal written in regard to advertising, but I think there is one point which has not as yet been fully emphasized; viz.: that the advertiser must

not be disappointed, nor blame any one, if he gets no return from one insertion of an advertisement, especially if he is a new man. We will say that Mr. A, for instance, orders one insertion of an advertisement, offering queens. He is a new man, and is apt to expect that, within four or five days after the appearance of his card, he will get a large number of responses; but he forgets that Mr. B, a well-known queen-breeder, offers queens just as cheap, just as good, and is known to be reliable. It is the most natural thing in the world for bee-keepers to buy of those who are well known. I do not mean to discourage one-insertion advertisements, but usually they do not pay unless some special inducement is offered in the way of extra quality, extra low price, or something novel, that everybody wants to see and get. But even then a plurality of insertions is far more liable to get better returns for the money invested.

While the above is exactly right, we want to say that *continuous* advertising pays best. If you cannot afford to keep an advertisement of a one inch, or two inch, space running constantly, then use only a half inch space. It will pay any advertiser to keep his name, address and business before the public *all the time*. If he permits his advertisement to drop out of the bee-papers, he will find that his name will be dropped from the memory of those who would be his customers if they were reminded of him by seeing his advertisement in every issue of the bee-paper taken.

These are matters worth thinking about, if the advertiser wishes to build up a good business.

**Marketing Honey.**—Mr. L. L. Alsbaugh, at the last Nebraska State convention, read an essay on "Extracted or Comb Honey for the Home Market." In the November Nebraska Bee-Keeper we find it as follows:

My plan has been like this. I made two show-cases, taking one of them to each of our best grocery stores, and set them on the counter and filled them with nice honey, taking care to have the sections nicely cleaned and scraped, and honey well capped over, adorning them with pretty three-colored labels, giving kind of honey, and my own name and address, giving the grocer orders to sell the honey at so much per section.

The great secret in selling honey at home or abroad, depends largely upon the shape and style in which it is put on the market. People do not care to buy sections of honey where the cappings are dark and broken; with combs bulged out on one side, and thin on the other, with bee-glue all over the sections, but will sooner take one with nice, even combs, with the cappings all


white and even, and with the sections scraped clean and adorned with a neat, tasty label; then if the flavor is good, a customer once, a customer always. He pays for his honey, and goes on his way, with visions of "buckheat and honey" for family breakfast.

The business of putting up honey for market, either comb or extracted, is as much of a knack as it is for the farmer to have hogs that bring the highest price in market. The good housewife who takes poor, soft, colorless butter to market, which the grocer only buys for soap-grease, never gets the highest price for her butter, but has to accept just what she can get; but when she takes a good, prime article, her butter is demanded from a class of customers who can and will pay for a good article.

### CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

#### *Time and place of meeting.*

1895.  
Jan. 2, 3.—Michigan State, at Detroit, Mich.  
W. Z. Hutchinson, Sec., Flint, Mich.  
Jan. 9.—Indiana State, at Indianapolis, Ind.  
Walter S. Pouder, Pres., Indianapolis, Ind.  
Jan. 21, 22.—Colorado State, at Denver, Colo.  
H. Knight, Sec., Littleton, Colo.  
Jan. 22-24.—Ontario, at Stratford, Ont.  
W. Couse, Sec., Streetville, Ont.  
Jan. 25, 26.—Ontario Co., at Canandaigua.  
Ruth E. Taylor, Sec., Bellona, N. Y.  
Jan. 28.—Venango Co., at Franklin, Pa.  
C. S. Pizer, Sec., Franklin, Pa.  
Jan. 30, 31.—Vermont, at Middlebury, Vt.  
H. W. Scott, Sec., Barre, Vt.  
Feb. 8, 9.—Wisconsin, at Madison, Wis.  
J. W. Vance, Cor. Sec., Madison, Wis.  
Mar. 16.—S. E. Kansas, at Bronson, Kan.  
J. C. Balch, Sec., Bronson, Kan.  
—.—North American, at Toronto, Can.  
Frank Benton, Sec., U. S. Dept. Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.

 In order to have this table complete. Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

### North American Bee-Keepers' Association

#### OFFICERS FOR 1895.

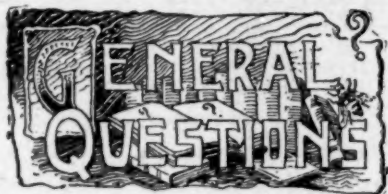
PRES.—R. F. Holtermann.... Brantford, Ont.  
VICE-PRES.—L. D. Stilson..... York, Nebr.  
SECRETARY.—W. Z. Hutchinson... Flint, Mich.  
TREASURER.—J. T. Calvert..... Medina, Ohio.

### National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—Hon. R. L. Taylor... Lapeer, Mich.  
GEN'L MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago, Ill.  
147 South Western Avenue.

**Have You Read** page 830 yet?





ANSWERED BY

**DR. C. C. MILLER,**  
MARENGO, ILL.

In this department will be answered those questions needing IMMEDIATE attention, and such as are not of sufficient special interest to require replies from the 20 or more apiarists who help to make "Queries and Replies" so interesting on another page. In the main, it will contain questions and answers upon matters that particularly interest beginners.—Ed.

### Italianizing an Apiary Cheaply.

I am starting with 22 colonies of black and mixed bees, bought from farmers near. I wish to Italianize all of them as soon as I can, without the expense of buying queens for all of them. Could I practically start with one Italian queen and rear queens myself for the entire lot? What troubles me is the drones. If I shut up all but my one colony of Italian drones, the chances are small for the queen finding a drone among 21 colonies of bees with only one colony of drones flying. And while I am keeping drones up in 21 colonies, there may be some queens in the same colonies wanting to fly out to mate. What per cent. of drones could be trapped and killed without damage to the apiary? By trapping all the drones from the new colony, the queen could be allowed to fly and mate with Italian drones.

Russellville, Mo.

L. G. C.

**ANSWER.**—Yes, get one good queen, then rear queens for the rest. Of course it will take a longer time than to buy queens for each one, but it will cost less. There is no trouble about drones enough. One colony can rear drones enough for a large apiary. But it will be better to have two Italian queens, rearing young queens from one of them, and letting the other have plenty of drone-comb, so as to rear a good lot of drones. Not that such a large lot of drones is necessary, but the more Italian drones you have, the better your chance of pure fecundation, with black bees around you.

There is nothing to hinder your trapping all the drones in all the hives except the one that you want to rear drones in. But I would take preventive measures. Cut out all the drone-comb in each hive except one or two inches square. Put in patches of worker-comb in place of the drone-comb you cut out. Then take Doolittle's plan, and every two or three weeks shave the heads of the sealed drone-brood in the drone-comb you have left. If you are thorough in this, there ought to be very few drones to trap.

### Changed from Blacks to Hybrids.

Will you please explain the following: I purchased three colonies of as black bees as one often sees, about two years ago, and the same summer I found a cluster of hybrids in the woods and brought them into my yard also; and now my bees are all the same color as the hybrids, and much gentler. How this change with the advantage so much in favor of the black bees? A. H. W.

Walnut Springs, Tex.

**ANSWER.**—Ordinarily I should have expected the bees to have worked toward the black blood, but should say that you have been peculiarly fortunate in that the queens of your black colonies, as they were renewed, met Italian or hybrid drones. The fact that you found hybrids in the woods indicates that hybrids or pure Italians are near you, and your queens may have met drones from these outsiders.

### Using Queen-Excluders.

Is it necessary in all cases to use a queen-excluding honey-board between the brood-nest and extracting case? And is a wood-zinc board the thing to use?

J. C. L.

Brooklyn, Pa.

**ANSWER.**—In running for comb honey I do not find a queen-excluder necessary, and while it may not be absolutely necessary in running for extracted, still I should prefer to have excluders. If you have no excluder the queen is pretty sure to go into the surplus story, and I'd

rather have no brood in the extracting-combs, both for the sake of the brood and the honey.

#### A Late-Reared Queen.

About a month ago I discovered one of my colonies broodless. I found the queen in a very shrunken condition. To keep up its strength I gave brood from other colonies. On Dec. 1, to my surprise, I found about six queen-cells started from eggs given to them a week previous. I again found the queen, but so shrivelled was her condition that she seemed little larger than a worker. I concluded that she had spent her strength, so I destroyed her, and also all the queen-cells but one. Of course there are no drones at this season—what will be the result of so late a queen? J. B.

Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 2.

ANSWER.—I'm not sure that I know. In one of my hives I should consider it all right in November to find no brood and the queen of small size, but in that wonderful State of yours things may be quite different, and as other queens were laying right along, and as queen-cells were started you may have been right in thinking that the queen was "play-d out." I have some doubt if you did a wise thing in meddling so much. So late, and with no drones, it is hardly likely they thought of swarming, and it might have been well to let them run their machine, for the queen-cell you left may have had the poorest queen in the lot. If the weather is good, it is possible the young queen may be already fecundated, for there may be drones that you know nothing of, and you may find the queen laying all right when next season opens.

**Sample Copies** of the "American Bee Journal" will be mailed free to all who ask for them. The next three or four months will be just the time for getting new subscribers, and if any of our friends can use sample copies among their bee-keeping neighbors, in order to get them as new subscribers, we will be glad to mail the samples, if the names and addresses are sent to us. Better educated bee-keepers will mean better things for all.

## OUR DOCTOR'S HINTS.

By F. L. PEIRO, M. D.

McVicker's Building,

CHICAGO, ILL.

### "Kidney Trouble."

Yes, this is the term applied to most ailments affecting the small of the back, including weakness and lameness. Well, in a sense, this is reasonable enough, too, because we all know that this is the seat where the kidneys are located. And, then, if with this sore-aching exists trouble in voiding urine, whether it be scantiness of the liquid, or pain on passing it, or if it be very red in color, or is attended with a brick-dust deposit; or if cloudy, stringy and offensive, why, all these facts tend strongly to confirm our conviction that we are, indeed, victims of "kidney trouble," though not knowing exactly what special form, but always fearing the worst.

Well, now let us reason together. Serious kidney difficulty is comparatively rare. It far more often is the result of catarrhal or gastric trouble than from any other cause. Doctors term this "functional derangement," which, put in plain language, implies that it is not dangerous in character, and that treatment should be directed to the causes producing disturbance of these organs rather than remedies for the kidneys direct. It is like a cinder in the eye—it is not the eye that needs removal, but the cinder. And no worse practice can be followed than the taking some, or all, of the so-called "kidney cures" vaunted for this specific trouble.

Most likely the stomach needs correcting, or it may be a slight rheumatism of the lower muscles of the spine that require a little medical attention; or, more likely still, it may be that some of our unreasonable practices need attention, whether of diet, of improper habits, or causes you can easily ascertain by consulting your personal self. Perhaps the *particular* evidence that tends most strongly to assure the mind of the sufferer that his conclusions of kidney trouble is correct, is the pain or straining or other difficulty he may experience in passing water. But then, the facts are that in far the greater number of such conditions are due to an irritable bladder—a great difference from impair-

ment of the kidneys, both as to consequences and proper treatment.

Troubles of the bladder are far more frequent and more easily remedied. Diseases of the kidneys are greater in number, serious in form, and vastly more difficult to cure. How are they produced, do I hear you ask? Well, some acute diseases to which we are subject are responsible for a certain share—scarlet fever, typhoid fever, diphtheria, measles, etc. Then, too, habits of intemperance are one of the greatest and most certain causes of most serious forms of kidney trouble. The indiscriminate use of certain remedies—turpentine and kindred drugs—are other plausible factors. And, finally, disease of these organs may be due to indirect causes which we cannot here consider.

Sufficient has been hinted to show the uselessness of worrying over imaginary ills, and the manner in which it may be occasioned and avoided. There is only one certain way of determining the absolute facts: It is to have the urine chemically and microscopically examined. This method places the nature of the case beyond the peradventure of a doubt. And the satisfaction of this knowledge, and, incidentally, the suggestion of correct procedure to a cure, is worth all the examination costs.

**Those New Subscribers**, that you have long been thinking of getting, are very likely ready now to give you their names. You know that we offer to give each one of them a free copy of the 160-page book, "Bees and Honey." Yes, and we will give you a premium for getting the new subscribers, as you will see on page 702. Better at once "get after" those bee-keeping friends of yours, and secure their subscriptions, so you can send it with your own renewal before the end of December. To double the present list of readers of the "American Bee Journal" will mean more than a doubly better paper for all. We can guarantee that. If each subscriber sends only one new name, the thing will be done. Will you do it?

**Honey as Food and Medicine** is just the thing to help sell honey, as it shows the various ways in which honey may be used as a food and as a medicine. Try 100 copies of it, and see what good "salesmen" they are. Prices, postpaid: Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 35 cents; or 100 for \$2.00.

**Read our great offer on page 832.**



CONDUCTED BY  
**MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.**  
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

### Helpful Words—Cross Hybrids.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I find a kind word from you quite often in the American Bee Journal, and your department takes my first glance through and through; then I look for whatever I may see. Your part is information to me almost every time. I find in the Nov. 1 number that you speak of bee-keeping in south Texas. I am like Mr. J. H. Berry, of Gale's Creek, Oreg. I need a good job of bee-keeping in that portion of the country, both for my health and profit. Can you answer for me a few questions through the "Old Reliable"?

1. What would be the lowest cost to locate as one of the 20 bee-keepers you spoke of being able to locate in your county?

2. How are the questions asked, that are answered by so many at once, in the American Bee Journal? For instance, we find the following: "What would you do had you bees so cross as to be unmanageable?" I thought the answers, some of them at least to me, quite laughable, though several years ago I had a fight with some hybrids that I was at one time decided to run. But I had never had anything so helpful as the American Bee Journal to read. I made several smokes in front of hives, and soon found that the little, bitter enemies were glad to surrender all they had. Two years afterward I learned that these same bees had whipped out some of the so-called bee-keepers, and run them clear out of the yard. They had heard of me in some way, and sent for me to come and work them over. Now, you would have smiled to have seen me and my wife drive up and face several families waiting the arrival of the old bee-man. "Oh," said they, "he has brought his wife to hold the fort while he runs;" and the laughable part to him was that these poor bee-folks

never saw hybrid bees before. "Just let the old bee-man have his way, and we will have the fun to see them run." But stop; there was no other than by-standers that did the running, while we cut out 16 boxes of fine 4-year-old honey from several hives, and wound up in full possession of house, yard, folks and all.

L. B. WHITTLE.

Cloud's Creek, S. C., Nov. 21.

Friend W., I am very glad indeed that you find my department interesting, and I shall use my best thoughts and words to make it so in the future.

1. In answer to your first question, I will say that I do not know what would be the cost of locating an apiary in this county, but of course it would depend entirely upon how many bees you wished to start with, etc. I should think that you could start with 100 colonies with \$500, and less, in proportion to the number of hives. I mean where you would buy everything.

2. The questions are collected by the editor, and about a dozen sent out to each of the several persons answering them, with a blank under each printed question for the answer. Of course no one knows anything about what the answers of the others will be until read, and that makes them interesting.

I am glad you conquered the hybrids.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

#### Eight Numbers for 10 Cents.—

Yes, we will send the last eight numbers of the American Bee Journal for 1894, to any new name, for only 10 cents (stamps or silver). Now, here's a good chance to get some of your bee-keeping friends started in taking the Bee Journal regularly. You just get them to read the eight numbers mentioned, and more than likely they will want to keep it up after that. If you have three bee-friends that you want should have the eight numbers, send us 25 cents with their names and addresses, and we will mail them to each. Remember this offer is for the last eight numbers of 1894—dated, Nov. 8, 15, 22 and 29; and Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

If, then, at any time between now and Feb. 1, 1895, you can secure the subscriptions of these "short termers" for the year 1895, you can count them as new subscribers and get the premiums as per our offers on page 830 of this issue. Eight "short term" subscribers at 10 cents each, will count the same as one new subscriber for a year, in earning premiums.

If you wish sample copies to use in securing the "short term" or other subscribers, let us know, and we will be glad to mail them to you free.

We ought to add thousands of names to our list on this very low offer—8 numbers for 10 cents! Now is the time for earnest work!



#### Double or Single Walled Hives —Which?

**Query 953.**—1. Do you prefer single-walled or double-walled hives?

2. Why your preference?—N. Y.

Double-walled hives with chaff filling.  
—E. FRANCE.

1. Single-walled, in my location.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. I have never used double-walled hives.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1. Single-walled. 2. Cheaper, and more convenient.—A. J. COOK.

1. Single-walled. 2. Because cheaper and much easier handled.—J. A. GREEN.

1. Single-walled. 2. Lighter, and better for cellar wintering.—P. H. ELWOOD.

1. Single-walled. 2. Easier to handle, and costs less. I winter bees in the cellar.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. Single-walled. 2. I consider them better, as well as cheaper, and lighter to handle.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. I prefer single walls. 2. Because they are just as good, cost less, and are lighter to handle.—B. TAYLOR.

1. Single-walled, every time. 2. Easier to handle in all cases, and for many other reasons.—H. D. CUTTING.

1. Single-walled hives. 2. Because the sun will warm up the interior during warm days.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

1. Single-walled. 2. Cost less, and I don't know of any sufficient advantage in the double-walled.—C. C. MILLER.

1. Double-walled. 2. Because they can be more successfully wintered, and keep cooler in summer.—W. G. LARRABEE.

1. I have no use for a double-walled hive. 2. Because they cost more, and you cannot keep bees warm in that way.—EMERSON T. ABBOTT.

I prefer a single-walled hive and winter cases. A double-walled hive is a poor hive to winter bees in. I have not



made double-walled hives for years—they are out of date. 2. The single-walled hive is easy to manipulate, and saves labor.—G. L. TINKER.

1 and 2. Double-walled hives, or two thicknesses, are best, but not chaff hives, which are too long to warm up in the spring.—DADANT & SON.

1. Single-walled. 2. Easier made, keep drier, and the sun will warm them up quickly at a time when the bees need the heat.—S. I. FREEBORN.

1. Single walls, every time. 2. They are cheaper and lighter to handle. If you intend packing bees out-doors for winter, use an outer case.—C. H. DIBBERN.

1. I prefer single-walled hives. 2. Because they are light and easy to handle, and are better in my climate, and a good deal cheaper.—G. W. DEMAREE.

1 and 2. For wintering out-doors, double-walled, because bees winter best in them. For cellar wintering, single-walled, because lighter to handle.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1. My preference is slightly towards the double-walled hive. 2. It gives more even temperature the year around. It affords more protection in autumn and winter.—W. M. BARNUM.

1. Single-walls. 2. Because I have found by testing in my own locality, that bees will winter as well in them as in double-walls, and the difference in cost is so great that it takes off lots of profit.—J. E. POND.

1. I prefer single-walled. 2. They are cheaper and lighter to handle, and as for wintering advantages of the double-walled—I should put them in the cellar any way, and the single wall does well there.—JAS. A. STONE.

1. Double-walled. 2. They are warmer in winter and cooler in summer. The combs do not melt down even when the hives stand in the sun, and the bees will not cluster on the outside of the hives so badly.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

1. There is, I think, some difference in winter, between single and double walled hives, out-of-doors. I have some of the double-walled, and, as a rule, the bees winter a little better in them. But the difference is not great.—M. MAHIN.

1. In this extreme Southern climate I prefer single-walled hives, as they are lighter. 2. Double walls are more expensive, but I have often thought of trying double-walled hives with a dead air space to see if it would not be a protec-

tion against heat. I have bees in brick-walled hives that seem very comfortable in hot weather, and a brick hive might be good for a winter hive in cold climates.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

### Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its 29th annual meeting Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 2 and 3, at the Perkins Hotel, corner of Cass and Grand River Avenues, Detroit, Mich. As there will be half-fare going on the 1st, but not on the 2nd, and half-fare returning on the 3rd, it is suggested that as many as possible reach Detroit by the evening of the 1st, and thus have a social time before the beginning of the regular convention work. The program, so far as arranged, is as follows:

#### FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

10:00 a.m.—Apicultural Work at Experiment Stations—Hon. R. L. Taylor, Lapeer, Mich.

#### FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

1:30 p.m.—President's Address—M. H. Hunt, Bell Branch, Mich.

3:00 p.m.—Influence of Patents on Improvements—T. F. Bingham, Abromia, Mich.

#### FIRST DAY—EVENING SESSION.

7:00 p.m.—Marketing of Honey—L. H. Ayers, of the firm of Ayers & Reynolds, commission men, Detroit, Mich.

#### SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

9:00 a.m.—Non-Swarming Hives—L. A. Aspinwall, Jackson, Mich.

10:30 a.m.—Wintering of Bees—Dr. A. B. Mason, Toledo, Ohio.

#### SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

1:30 p.m.—Apicultural Literature—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.

Plenty of time has been given for discussion and for the introduction of the question-box. W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Sec.  
Flint, Mich.

**The Novelty Pocket-Knife** is worth having. Mr. A. G. Amos, of New York, says this about it: "The 'Novelty' pocket-knife which I received with the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL arrived all O. K., and it is a dandy." Better get one yourself, and then you will know what a "dandy" thing it is. See page 800 for advertising offer.

"I have 60 colonies, but if I had only one I should want the 'Old Reliable'—'American Bee Journal' just the same."—J. W. Stilson, of Wisconsin, Nov. 26, 1894.



### MR. R. L. TAYLOR BOILED DOWN.

BY REV. W. F. CLARKE.

I notice that no reports from the Michigan Experimental Apiary have appeared in the American Bee Journal since May 31, 1894. This does not greatly surprise me, for most of what has been published since is so overloaded with figures as to bewilder the ordinary reader. But why should not a brief statement be given of the results arrived at? The publication of the reports in full is rendered less necessary by the appearance of a special bulletin issued by the Michigan State Agricultural College, giving a detailed statement of the experiments for a year. I presume similar bulletins will appear annually. Pending their publication, why not boil down each report as it comes out, and give the essence of it? Suppose I constitute myself cook, and try my hand at this boiling-down process?

**SUGAR FOR WINTER STORES.**—This is the first of the topics that have been reported on since May 31. In the fall of 1893, Mr. Taylor selected 24 colonies for cellar-wintering, as nearly equal in all respects as possible, one-half of which were to be fed sugar syrup for winter stores, and the other half to be fed with honey for the same purpose. The necessary feeding was done the last of September. The amount of stores consumed was very small, but the important point brought out was the economy of feeding sugar stores instead of honey. The average consumption of sugar was but  $3\frac{1}{8}$  pounds from the 15th of November until the first days of April, while that of honey was  $6\frac{1}{8}$  pounds, or nearly twice as much.

**SPRING PROTECTION AND STIMULATIVE FEEDING.**—This report is very difficult to boil down, being almost all figures, and must have cost a large amount of labor and patience. The results can be given almost in Mr. Taylor's own words. They were a great surprise to him. While he had long been doubtful whether spring packing and stimulative feeding repaid the work and expense, he fully believed there was considerable advantage in them. But he found that in every way in which comparison can be made, the unpacked colonies had the advantage both in increase of strength and in weight. It should be said also that out of 13 two-story hives packed there was a loss of four colonies against none among those not packed, while of the one-story hives the loss among the packed ones was more than twice as great as among the unpacked ones. For stimulative feeding it is to be said that it showed a very trifling advantage in three cases, and was at a disadvantage in a fourth case. The history of these hives, packed and unpacked, fed and unfed, is continued through the season in a subsequent report, which embodies a mass of figures almost as puzzling as logarithms. The season was not favorable, and the continued experi-

ment gave no satisfactory results. Mr. Taylor is inclined to draw some inferences in favor of small brood-chambers, but admits himself that the premises are slender for so doing. But, all through the season, the unpacked colonies maintained their superiority over the packed ones.

**FOUNDATION FOR SECTIONS.**—The next report is really a continuation of an earlier one in which the superiority of the Given style of foundation had been shown, only the sample of Hunt foundation excelled the Given by  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., while the Given excelled the best of all the others by 18 per cent.

**FOUL BROOD.**—The last report which has come to hand contains a very important experiment designed to ascertain whether the germs of foul brood would retain their vitality when contained in beeswax that had been manufactured into foundation. The late Mr. S. Cornell strenuously took the affirmative of this much-debated question, and Mr. Taylor's experiment, while not positively conclusive, nor absolutely final, affords strong presumptive evidence that Mr. Cornell was right, and that unless care be taken to bring the beeswax at least to the temperature of boiling water, it is possible to convey the germs of that dread disease in comb foundation made from it.

Guelph, Ont., Dec. 12.



### SUCCESSFUL WINTERING OF BEES.

BY DANIEL WYSS.

I have probably been more successful in wintering my bees than in any other point of the business, never having lost a colony in wintering them, nor from spring dwindling. This winter I may not be as successful, having fed my bees later than I should have done. Out-door wintering, in chaff hives, for this locality, is undoubtedly the safest way. I construct my own hives (and sell none) as follows:

The brood-chamber consists of a box with double walls all around, and double bottoms filled in with wheat chaff; with Simplicity frames, 8 or 10 in number. The space between the walls is about 3 inches. On this is a box, without bottom or top, made of 8 or 10 inch boards, just large enough to slip over the outside walls of the brood-chamber. This box—second story as it may be called—should slip down over the brood-chamber about one inch, and there rest on uprights nailed on the corners. These uprights should extend three or four inches below the bottom of the brood-chamber, answering for legs or supports to the hive. The top, or roof, is made of pine shingles to fit the second story. In this second story any kind of arrangement with sections for surplus honey can be made.

For wintering, out of half-inch lumber I fit a board that will just cover the frames of the brood-chamber. Strips  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch thick, and about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide, are nailed to this board, as near the ends and sides as practicable, giving the bees a free passageway over all the brood-frames. Near the center of this board cut a hole two or three inches square, cover this opening with a piece of board, and pour into this second story enough chaff to cover the board about two inches, well packed. Cover this with a cushion five or six inches thick, made out of burlap filled with wheat chaff.

At any time during a warm day in winter, it will be an easy matter to examine the bees, by taking off the cushion, and work aside the chaff over the board covering the opening in the main board. And should they need feeding, put over this opening a feeder, with syrup or honey, and again cover with chaff and cushion. Even in cold weather bees can be successfully fed in this way.

I have read the American Bee Journal since June, 1886. From its pages I

have learned the most of what little I know about bee-keeping. I like to read it. It admonishes me from week to week to keep an eye on my bees, so that I am less apt to neglect them. Although bee-keeping in this locality is not profitable—at least it has not been with me, the last four or five years—I still want to keep bees. The year just past has been the worst of all for me. The dry season, which commenced very early last summer, dried up the white clover—the only source from which we can expect any surplus in this locality, except it be from fruit-bloom. The drouth continued until near the last of September, thus giving the bees very little chance for laying in their winter stores. I fed a barrel of sugar to 20 colonies. I have but 6 colonies that did not need to be fed.

New Philadelphia, O., Nov. 26.



### THE SEASON OF 1894, AND RESULTS.

BY S. B. SMITH.

As I am confined to the house, and some of the time to my bed, with rheumatism, I think it is a good time to write of my success with bees the past season. I also need a little honey to sweeten me while I endure the severe pain to which I am subjected.

We have had a remarkable year. In the spring it was wet, cold and backward. Bees were taken from their winter quarters very early on account of a warm spell, but afterwards we had a cold spell, and a few colonies died. After the cold, wet spell it was very warm and dry for three months, with an average of 85 per cent. of sunshine during the time. Farmers were discouraged, and so were bee-men. But when the season came for gathering in the crops, farmers found that they had been blessed beyond their expectations, and all apiarists say that bees have seldom, if ever, gathered more honey than they have this year.

The season for gathering honey is too short here for bees to gather a large surplus. My old colonies stored from 50 to 60 lbs. to a colony in one-pound sections, besides each sending off one prime swarm. Some of the swarms that issued did not store any surplus honey, and others stored 25 to 30 pounds each.

I have customers that take nearly all the honey I have to sell at 18 and 20 cents per pound, and we do the same with butter. During the summer, butter sells here in the market for 8 and 10 cents per pound, but we have customers in the city that take all we can make at 20 cents per pound.

Our apiary and dairy is run on a small scale, but we take all the profits ourselves. We have no use for the honey and butter middleman.

I put my bees into winter quarters the first day of December, and they had a good flight the day before; if they had been out, they would have had another flight yesterday. All of my colonies are in prime condition, with plenty of honey for a long winter, and they may need it before another honey season, for when we have such mild Novembers and Decembers as we have this year, we are apt to have late springs.

My bees are Italians; they are good honey-gatherers, and I am well satisfied with them, but from what I read in the American Bee Journal I think I would like a colony of Carniolans, but it might prove a poor investment.

I was awarded the 1st and 2nd premiums on honey, and 2nd on butter at our County Fair last fall. We always try to have the best, and always find a good market.

Keeville, Minn., Dec. 8.



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**HOW TO WATER THE BEES.**

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BY PHILLIP SMITH.

I want to tell how I water my bees, for the benefit of those who may not know of a better plan.

I take a large cigar-box, or any other box that can be made water-tight either with wax or paint—a tin box made purposely for watering bees might still be better. Make the lid to fit loosely inside of the box; bore the lid full of gimlet holes, nail two little strips on the underside of the lid at each end to keep it from warping, and one on top of the lid to lift it in and out with.

While filling the box with water, if the lid gets too heavy, tack thin slices of cork underneath it to keep it on top. The way I got my bees started to water in the boxes, was to take sweetened water at first, very early in the spring of the year, and I was careful to always keep water in the boxes. I generally kept one box with salt water in it—say one tablespoonful to a quart of water. Sometimes the bees seem to be very greedy for the salt water, and at other times they would not touch it for three or four days.

I think I have saved thousands of bees by having this watering-place. It is located on the south side of the house in a cool, shady place, where there is not so much wind as in some places. During the ten hot days in July and August, when the mercury stood at 106°, my bees drank 3½ gallons of fresh water a day out of these boxes. I filled them every morning and noon during those hot days, and spent considerable time watching the bees coming and going for the water. I had 15 colonies at that time, and I have no doubt that some bee-keepers will discredit this statement, for it seems hardly possible, but it is nevertheless true. I measured very particularly, and I know that the boxes did not leak.

I was bothered very much the summer before, with bees in the watering-trough and around the well-bucket where timid folks often did without water on account of the bees being too thick.

This was my third year with bees. I got 150 pounds of honey, and doubled my bees from 9 to 18 colonies. I am very well satisfied with the business, and expect to continue. I have gotten many good things out of the "Old Reliable," and give the above on watering bees, hoping that it may do some one else good.

Williamsburgh, Kans., Dec. 1.

**SELECTING A HIVE.**

BY CHAS. DADANT.

It is during the winter that bee-keepers should prepare their hives for the coming spring. Now comes the question, Which hive is the best? Of course there is no doubt that the hive must have movable frames, since this hive is acknowledged by everybody as the best, and, in fact, the only one with which all the indispensable operations of the apiary may be performed. But there are several sizes and forms of frames and hives extensively used in this country: the suspended or hanging Langstroth frame, which is the standard frame of America, the size of which is 17½ inches in length by 9¼ in height; the Quinby hanging frame differs from the Langstroth by its size only, which is 18½x11½; the square or American frame, 12½x12½; the square Gallup frame, 11¼x11¼.

I have tried these four styles, not with one or two hives of each, but on quantities, and with the Quinby frames I have obtained the best results, not only in honey, but in wintering the bees also. Before going further, I advise all bee-keepers, who

have any taste for or skill in handling tools, to make their hives themselves. This work is not very difficult. When I began to keep bees I bought, in a second-hand store, all the tools I needed, saws, planes, hammer, squares, etc., and I did not find the work either hard or difficult, but, on the contrary, rather pleasant, although I had no skill in carpentering.

A man who lives on a farm is often compelled to stay at home in idleness during the bad weather of winter. Then he will find the work of building hives an agreeable and profitable occupation. A small shop, and the necessary tools for hive-making, will cost but little, and will be found useful in many ways outside of the bee-hive interest.

I will now explain why the Quinby frames prove more profitable when compared to the other sizes. For breeding purposes, the nearer square a frame is the better it suits the queen. When she begins to lay, in the first days of February, and sometimes earlier, to replenish the hive with bees, she places the first eggs in the cells that occupy the middle of the cluster. Then she continues her laying in a circle around the cells containing the first laid until she reaches the edge of the frame. In very shallow frames, after she has filled a circle of the height of the frame, she has to hunt at each round for more cells to lay in. When we consider that a queen in the height of the breeding-season must lay from 2,000 to 3,500 eggs per day, we will readily understand how precious her time is. While she is hunting for more room her eggs drop off, like fruits, and are lost. It is, therefore, evident that the frame must be as nearly square as possible, but with a square frame there is too little room above for the surplus honey, as the hive must of necessity be nearly square also. It therefore becomes necessary to furnish the bees with a hive in which the frames will be of sufficient depth to give the queen a good-sized circle on each, and of sufficient length to allow of a plentiful space over the brood-nest for the surplus apartment.

A very shallow frame, besides breaking the queen's breeding-circle also, has the disadvantage of leaving too little room above the cluster during cold weather for the supply of food. The greater part of the honey has to be put in the rear part of the combs, and in extremely cold weather we have often noticed that colonies died in these shallow hives, because they were unable to reach these stores that were too far on the side, and consequently not warmed by the heat rising from the cluster.

The above reasons are sufficient to show that my preference for the Quinby frame is based upon rational deductions, as well as upon the experience of 30 years of practice.—*Prairie Farmer*.  
Hamilton, Ill.



### QUESTIONS ABOUT EAST TENNESSEE.

BY H. F. COLEMAN.

Mr. W. R. Ritchie, of North Middletown, Ky., desires me to answer the following questions through the American Bee Journal:

1. In the mountainous parts of East Tennessee, what per cent. of the lands are in cultivation? 2. What are the principal crops and their average yield? 3. What is price of land not improved? 4. How is the country populated? 5. How is the fruit business?

In answer to these questions, I would say that in the rural districts, and to these I presume Mr. R. has reference, not more than 35 per cent. of the lands are in cultivation. In these districts the principal crops are corn, wheat, oats and the grasses. The best lands will yield from 30 to 50 bushels of corn per acre, and wheat and oats in proportion. The poorer lands will not do so well. The price of

unimproved lands on the mountains, range from \$2 to \$4 per acre. These sections are sparsely settled, but the people in the main are thrifty and prosperous.

The highlands here are well adapted to fruit-raising. Apples and peaches are the principal fruits grown, and they are not excelled by fruits of the same kind grown anywhere in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. The apple crop has not been a failure but once in more than 20 years.

The honey crop here has never been an entire failure, in my knowledge, and in fair seasons I am sure that with proper management the yield will be enormous. Bee-culture, on the improved plans, is of recent date here, and no fair tests have been made as to what can be done on this line, but this year, with all the early flowers killed by the freeze in March, my yield was 61 pounds per colony—some colonies giving me 140 pounds.

The fruit, locust, redbud, blackberry and poplar blooms—each exceedingly valuable here to bee-keepers—were all killed by the March freeze.

Sneedville, Tenn., Dec. 1.



Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

#### Fine Weather—Going South.

We are having very fine weather. The little snow we had in November has all disappeared, and the frost in places out of the ground. We are scraping and fixing the road to-day—55° above zero yesterday in the shade. I put my bees into cellars Nov. 8. They are quiet and contented at 40° to 42° above zero.

I intend to start next week on a trip South—to Florida and several Southern States, to reach Beeville, Tex., in time to take in the convention at Mrs. Atchley's place, and get acquainted with our Southern brethren, and their way of bee-keeping. I expect to hear some big, big "blowing up" the country. I will see, and report.

C. THEILMAN.

Theilmanton, Minn., Dec. 8.

#### Wintering Bees in a Cave, Etc.

The past season has been unfavorable for honey in this locality. I secured 400 pounds of comb honey in 1-pound sections from 15 old colonies, and had

an increase of 6 swarms. My bees are mostly hybrids—in fact, I think it would be difficult to find any pure blacks here. I had some of Mr. Newman's Italians years ago, when he was editor of the American Bee Journal. I am like some others—for honey I would as soon have the despised blacks.

I have tried cellar-wintering with rather poor results. For the last four years I have wintered my bees in a cave, as I call it. For the benefit of those who might wish to try a plan not very expensive, I will state how I build mine:

Select a rise of ground where surface water will not trouble; dig a trench 4 feet wide and 1½ feet deep, 16 feet long; take 2x6 scantling and place 3 inches from the edge on each side; make rafters of the same material, and place 20 inches apart. Cover tight with boards, put in two ventilators made out of inch boards, 3x4 inches inside, then cover over with one foot of dirt, then again with dimension boards to keep off rain, poultry, etc. Let the ventilators come one or two feet above all; nail a board on top, and bore sufficient holes in below.

I take off the hive-caps and set the hives on top of each other, and place a tenpenny nail under each honey-board. I use the Adam Grimm-Langstroth hive. I then close up the end, put on the same amount of dirt, boards, etc., and do not go near them until the willows blossom in spring.

This cave will hold 30 hives. It has the advantage over cellar-wintering under a residence, of absolute darkness, quietness, and about the same temperature at all times. I put them in Nov. 12 for this year. I took the precaution to see that they had plenty of stores

about Oct. 1. I feed them by putting in full combs of good sealed honey.

I enjoy reading the experience of others, and hope what little I have written will do no harm.

ERASTUS BOWEN.

Columbus, Wis., Nov. 26.

#### A Beginner's Report.

I am a beginner in the bee-business. I bought 9 colonies last spring, and have 12 now, in good condition for the winter. I obtained 350 pounds of comb honey. Eight of the hives are dovetailed, with Hoffman frames, and they are good. The other four colonies are in box-hives, which I will transfer in the spring.

M. T. FOUTS.

Parksville, Tenn., Dec. 10.

#### Honey Yield Below an Average.

I prize the American Bee Journal very highly. The yield of honey in this section was below an average. I had 75 colonies, spring count, and got 1,000 one-pound sections of honey, and 200 pounds of extracted, which is perhaps about an average of what bees have done here.

J. C. LEE.

Brooklyn, Pa., Dec. 2.

#### An Experience with Bees.

About four years ago I became interested in the honey-bee. I found a colony in a stub limb of a tree. I cut the limb off and brought them home. I thought I would fatten them up for winter, and gave them four or five pounds of liquid sweets in a pan on the ground right in front of the entrance. In a short time the air was filled with thousands of bees. I thought I had a monster. Well, that night all I had left of that colony was the stub limb. I have never tried feeding bees in the air since.

My next experience with bees was this: I climbed a tree 45 feet from the ground, and cut a black colony out, after a hard struggle and many stings. I got them into a hive and carried them home on my back—a distance of four miles. I gave them a set of combs full of bee-moth, and they did not stay with me very long.

I then borrowed "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee," and for the first time my eyes were opened to the mystery and beauties of a bee-hive; since then I have given bees my constant attention. I had 16 colonies the past season, but on

account of the drouth they stored but little honey. I sold out the entire outfit, and with one colony I am starting up again with a different hive and system. The hive I now use holds 10 frames with a top-bar  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches long and 10 inches deep.

FRED E. PAGE.

Byron, Ill., Dec. 8.

#### A Little Fall-Bloom Honey.

Bees did not do much this season. They got a little honey from fall bloom.

J. H. BROWN.

Prescott, Ariz., Dec. 7.

#### No Honey and Not Discouraged.

I did not get any honey this year from 70 colonies of bees. They have enough for winter, by feeding some of them. But I will still keep on trying to do better. I think in a few years we will have plenty of alfalfa here. The farmers are trying it some in this neighborhood.

JAMES JARDINE.

Ashland, Nebr., Dec. 13.

#### Planting Basswood Trees.

I was at the World's Fair last year. Some saw one thing at the Fair and some another. I was breaking in new shoes when I was there, so I did not see all I might have seen. I have noticed in the American Bee Journal some one asking about where to get linden trees. I got a price-list of a nurseryman that I think will answer. Why not all bee-keepers send for such price-list. The one I got lists 4 to 8 inch linden at \$1.00 a hundred. Why not each bee-keeper start a small nursery row in his locality, and see to it that the shade-trees that are planted are honey-plants instead of rubbish? We can send for seedlings, give them a little care, and give them away or sell them at a reasonable price, and thus benefit the future bee-keepers, or we may live to get some of it ourselves.

H. E. KLOTH.

Blanchester, Ohio, Dec. 11.

#### Our Young Friend Again.

Since my last letter I have seen only a few letters in the American Bee Journal from us bee boys and girls. But I will write again, anyway, for I was glad to hear from a few.

We have our bees all in the cellar and think they are doing quite well. We have not fed them yet, nor do we expect



to, unless it be in the spring. I did not get a chance to help put them into the cellar this fall, but father said they were nearly all in splendid condition.

I am going to school in a neighboring village this winter, and get home only on Saturdays, but I keep my eye on the American Bee Journal. I would like to hear from some more of the young people through the American Bee Journal this winter. Pens and paper are cheap. Let us see which State in the Union will have the largest representation of young people in the Bee Journal this winter. Now see if Wisconsin doesn't come out ahead. Let's make the editor make the paper larger on our account.

CHAS. W. SANFORD.

Ono, Wis., Dec. 15.

[All right, let's hear from the young bee-keepers of the different families where the Bee Journal is read. Tell us all something about the bees. Maybe the young friends can give the older ones some new and valuable ideas on bee-keeping. We always have room for something good, or new and helpful.—EDITOR.]

#### Bees Did Well—Late Swarms.

My report for 1894 is this: 1,200 pounds of comb honey, and 400 pounds of extracted, gathered in 25 days—10 days in July and 15 days commencing the 29th of August. The bees have plenty for winter. I had 28 colonies in the spring, and 28 in the fall. One colony swarmed Aug. 29, which gathered enough for winter, and gave me 21 pounds of comb honey. Also one swarmed Sept. 4, and gathered 22 pounds for winter, and gave me 7 pounds of finished comb honey. If any one has done better in this latitude (38°) I should like to hear from him through the American Bee Journal.

A. D. LORD.

Amiret, Minn., Dec. 13.

#### Bee-Keeping in Eastern Kansas.

I had intended to meet all of the bee-keeping fraternity of the United States and Canada at St. Joseph in October, but I was prevented by circumstances that I could not control, and went about 100 miles right in the opposite direction. I just consider I perhaps missed the one opportunity of a lifetime, but I *will* go when they have the National at Kansas

City or Independence, Mo., if it is not too far in the future.

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about Oct. 1. I feed them by putting in full combs of good sealed honey.

I enjoy reading the experience of others, and hope what little I have written will do no harm.

ERASTUS BOWEN.

Columbus, Wis., Nov. 26.

#### A Beginner's Report.

I am a beginner in the bee-business. I bought 9 colonies last spring, and have 12 now, in good condition for the winter. I obtained 350 pounds of comb honey. Eight of the hives are dovetailed, with Hoffman frames, and they are good. The other four colonies are in box-hives, which I will transfer in the spring.

M. T. FOUTS.

Parksville, Tenn., Dec. 10.

#### Honey Yield Below an Average.

I prize the American Bee Journal very highly. The yield of honey in this section was below an average. I had 75 colonies, spring count, and got 1,000 one-pound sections of honey, and 200 pounds of extracted, which is perhaps about an average of what bees have done here.

J. C. LEE.

Brooklyn, Pa., Dec. 2.

#### An Experience with Bees.

About four years ago I became interested in the honey-bee. I found a colony in a stub limb of a tree. I cut the limb off and brought them home. I thought I would fatten them up for winter, and gave them four or five pounds of liquid sweets in a pan on the ground right in front of the entrance. In a short time the air was filled with thousands of bees. I thought I had a monster. Well, that night all I had left of that colony was the stub limb. I have never tried feeding bees in the air since.

My next experience with bees was this: I climbed a tree 45 feet from the ground, and cut a black colony out, after a hard struggle and many stings. I got them into a hive and carried them home on my back—a distance of four miles. I gave them a set of combs full of bee-moth, and they did not stay with me very long.

I then borrowed "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee," and for the first time my eyes were opened to the mystery and beauties of a bee-hive; since then I have given bees my constant attention. I had 16 colonies the past season, but on

account of the drouth they stored but little honey. I sold out the entire outfit, and with one colony I am starting up again with a different hive and system. The hive I now use holds 10 frames with a top-bar 19½ inches long and 10 inches deep.

FRED E. PAGE.

Byron, Ill., Dec. 8.

#### A Little Fall-Bloom Honey.

Bees did not do much this season. They got a little honey from fall bloom.

J. H. BROWN.

Prescott, Ariz., Dec. 7.

#### No Honey and Not Discouraged.

I did not get any honey this year from 70 colonies of bees. They have enough for winter, by feeding some of them. But I will still keep on trying to do better. I think in a few years we will have plenty of alfalfa here. The farmers are trying it some in this neighborhood.

JAMES JARDINE.

Ashland, Nebr., Dec. 13.

#### Planting Basswood Trees.

I was at the World's Fair last year. Some saw one thing at the Fair and some another. I was breaking in new shoes when I was there, so I did not see all I might have seen. I have noticed in the American Bee Journal some one asking about where to get linden trees. I got a price-list of a nurseryman that I think will answer. Why not all bee-keepers send for such price-list. The one I got lists 4 to 8 inch linden at \$1.00 a hundred. Why not each bee-keeper start a small nursery row in his locality, and see to it that the shade-trees that are planted are honey-plants instead of rubbish? We can send for seedlings, give them a little care, and give them away or sell them at a reasonable price, and thus benefit the future bee-keepers, or we may live to get some of it ourselves.

H. E. KLOTH.

Blanchester, Ohio, Dec. 11.

#### Our Young Friend Again.

Since my last letter I have seen only a few letters in the American Bee Journal from us bee boys and girls. But I will write again, anyway, for I was glad to hear from a few.

We have our bees all in the cellar and think they are doing quite well. We have not fed them yet, nor do we expect

to, unless it be in the spring. I did not get a chance to help put them into the cellar this fall, but father said they were nearly all in splendid condition.

I am going to school in a neighboring village this winter, and get home only on Saturdays, but I keep my eye on the American Bee Journal. I would like to hear from some more of the young people through the American Bee Journal this winter. Pens and paper are cheap. Let us see which State in the Union will have the largest representation of young people in the Bee Journal this winter. Now see if Wisconsin doesn't come out ahead. Let's make the editor make the paper larger on our account.

CHAS. W. SANFORD.

Ono, Wis., Dec. 15.

[All right, let's hear from the young bee-keepers of the different families where the Bee Journal is read. Tell us all something about the bees. Maybe the young friends can give the older ones some new and valuable ideas on bee-keeping. We always have room for something good, or new and helpful.—EDITOR.]

#### Bees Did Well—Late Swarms.

My report for 1894 is this: 1,200 pounds of comb honey, and 400 pounds of extracted, gathered in 25 days—10 days in July and 15 days commencing the 29th of August. The bees have plenty for winter. I had 28 colonies in the spring, and 28 in the fall. One colony swarmed Aug. 29, which gathered enough for winter, and gave me 21 pounds of comb honey. Also one swarmed Sept. 4, and gathered 22 pounds for winter, and gave me 7 pounds of finished comb honey. If any one has done better in this latitude (38°) I should like to hear from him through the American Bee Journal.

A. D. LORD.

Amiret, Minn., Dec. 13.

#### Bee-Keeping in Eastern Kansas.

I had intended to meet all of the bee-keeping fraternity of the United States and Canada at St. Joseph in October, but I was prevented by circumstances that I could not control, and went about 100 miles right in the opposite direction. I just consider I perhaps missed the one opportunity of a lifetime, but I will go when they have the National at Kansas

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